

this colour, even when they are not excited. In our opinion, this colour character does not belong to the sex complex and should not be treated as a sex character of the males.

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY,
BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY,
VARANASI 5,
August 27, 1962.

G. S. SINGH
J. P. THAPLIYAL

16. EXTENSION OF RANGE OF OLIVACEOUS SMOOTH SNAKE [*RHABDOPS OLIVACEUS* (BEDDOME)]

On 1 September 1962, I collected an Olivaceous Smooth Snake, *Rhabdops olivaceus* (Beddome), under a stone on the flat bare top of a hill, c. 1300 m. above m.s.l., west of Koyna Dam, Satara District, Maharashtra State, surrounded by thick forest.

The records in literature are restricted to the Wynaad, but a specimen in the Society's collection was collected by Dr. Edward Taylor at Kottegehar in Kadur, Mysore State, in 1961. The present specimen, a male, has 227 ventrals against 206-215 mentioned in Smith's FAUNA (1943), p. 328, and constitutes the northernmost record of this species.

BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,
91, WALKESHWAR ROAD,
BOMBAY 6,
December 6, 1962.

P. W. SOMAN

17. EXTENSION OF THE KNOWN RANGE OF THE CATSNAKE, *BOIGA FORSTENI* (DUM. & BIBR.)

A small collection of snakes recently received from Mr. E. M. Shull, Ahwa, Surat Dangs, Gujarat, includes one specimen of *Boiga forsteni* (Dum. & Bibr.). The distribution as recorded in Smith's FAUNA is 'Ceylon and Peninsular India; Western Ghats (Matheran to Travancore); Ganges Valley (Orcha, Fyzabad, Gorakhpur, Balrampur, Purnea, Manbhum); Orissa (Behrampore); Bengal (Sijna); Eastern Himalayas (Darjeeling district, *fide* Wall). It inhabits both the plains and the hills.' The present record appears to extend its known distribution appreciably northwards, though in the Society's copy of Smith's FAUNA there is a pencil entry against the paragraph